

# N. Camden patrol spells 'respect'

By MARIE RANDOIA  
Courier-Post Staff

CAMDEN — United in the damp night air, a civilian army marched through the rain-slicked streets of North Camden to ensure Saturday night would not be one of mischief.

Armed with flashlights were the self-proclaimed protectors of North Camden — store owners, parents, senior citizens, students, teachers and clergy.

More than 200 people, many marching with clenched fists and determined staves, bundled in rain gear and meticulously patrolled the North Camden neighborhood left charred and devastated by vandals on Michief Night 1991.

For these concerned North Camden neighbors, there would be no arson, no violence, no destruction of property this Michief Night.

"Respect. It's all about respect," Angel Jimenez said as he stood guard at the corner of 7th and State streets.

"In 1991, people lost their homes, their lives were put in danger because some people decided to destroy."

"People don't want that to happen again," Jimenez said. "People don't want their loved ones to lose their homes or be in danger."

The call for peace was clear through North Camden. Walking side by side with police, the marchers scanned abandoned homes and cars.

Their bright orange flashlights scanned rooftops, illuminated blackened porches and penetrated vacant homes.

North Camden native Karen Weal was one of the marchers. "The community is taking a stand for itself. We are taking back our neighborhood," Weal said as she marched past the Erie Street home of her mother, Betty Weal.

Sometimes it's tough, sometimes it's easier for people to give up and let life happen, but it's better for us all if we take a stand," Weal said. "The more motivated we are, the better our neighborhood will be."

Camden City Patrolman Susan Devilla led a group of 15 marchers



By Tim Markos, Courier-Post

Nobody home: Police and volunteers inspect a crawl space Saturday night in North Camden.

through the 5th, 6th and 7th Street neighborhood.

Devilla's group, made up mostly of lifelong North Camden residents, included Sister Dorothy Crowley and several other nuns based at Holy Name Roman Catholic Church on 5th Street.

"These people are out here because they care. These people are part of the solution to the problems in Camden City," Devilla said as he guided the group up Fifth Street.

"For too long, the good people in Camden sat back and let the evil continue to hurt life here," Sister Crowley said. "There are so many good people in Camden City. These good people can combat the evil."

As the foot patrol blanketed

North Camden, civilian car patrols, manned by more than a dozen members of Hispanic Unidos International, joined police patrols in guarding the 7th Street neighborhood.

Sam Plaza, who lives above his beauty shop at the corner of Seventh and State streets, coordinated the civilian car patrol effort from his shop. At least 12 cars in the Hispanic civic group's patrol effort spotted CB radios for Michief Night day.

"We are out here protecting North Camden. We want to protect our homes, our property, our loved ones," Plaza said as he peered out into Seventh Street from his store's brightly lit porch.

"If our car patrols see any criminal activity, they'll radio it into us here and we'll determine whether to call the police or the fire department," Plaza said.

"Hopefully, we won't have any bad problems with fire or any other criminal acts tonight," Plaza said. "If we do, though, we are ready for them."

Volunteer Luis Reyes, 21, was equally confident amid the massive neighborhood effort.

"We can take this on. We can walk the streets together and protect our homes," Reyes said as he marched down State Street. "We can take a stand and we will do whatever it takes to make sure nobody destroys our area ever again."



On stage: Tamika Cuff takes part in a dance performance at the Halloween festivities at Borsall Elementary School in Camden.

## Party-going youngsters go wild with costumes

By DIANE MONAGHAN JOHNS  
For the Courier-Post

CAMDEN — Eleven-year-old Keith Randella was uncomfortable.

He wasn't used to the polka toes of his one-inch pumps and his ponytails had been fanning baggy wrinkles around his ankles all afternoon. He had given up on his black wig hours ago and it was now stuffed into his leather purse with his clip-on earrings.

Still, it was a Halloween party, so he decided to put up with it. The party Randella attended was one of 17 organized by Camden's Department of Community Services as part of its Halloween Safe Haven program. The parties were held Saturday at various city schools as a way to keep kids off the streets on Michief Night and in a safe environment.

At Borsall Elementary School, more than 300 children turned out for the festivities. The costumes ranged from the mild, like Barney and Kermit the Frog, to the macabre, like skeletons and "killer clown." Some were store-bought while others were handmade.

Volunteers served free hot dogs, soft pretzels and caramel apples while a Chinese dance troupe entertained the children.

"The purpose of this event is to give kids something fun to do while keeping them safe," said party organizer Anthony Wallace. "We also want to show them that everyone's pulling together for them so they'll grow up to be good people with positive role models."

Parent Keith Kirland decided to make the party a family affair. Although he admitted he was

## Cherry Hill Liquors

"Our Low Prices Will Lift Your Spirits"

<b>GORDON'S 80° VODKA</b> \$10.99	<b>SOUTHERN COMFORT</b> \$14.99	<b>SCORESBY SCOTCH WHISKY</b> \$15.99
<b>FISCHER'S WHISKY</b> \$11.99	<b>GORDON'S GIN</b> \$12.99	<b>BUSCH BEER</b> \$8.79
<b>MICHELLE'S</b> \$11.99	<b>BUDWEISER</b> \$10.99	<b>OLD MILWAUKEE</b> \$7.99
<b>SCHMIDT'S</b> \$5.99	<b>CHATEAU LUZERNE</b> \$6.79	<b>CARLO ROSSI</b> \$6.79

156 EVERHAM RD., CHERRY HILL, NJ  
354-0114  
Sole Good Wine 11/16/93  
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK  
SUN. 11:00-6:00 PM

## AZZARA'S

ITALIAN DELI & BUTCHER SHOP

<b>American Cheese</b> \$1.89 LB.	<b>FRESH MOZZARELLA FRESH PASTA</b> HOMEMADE RIPOST PORK, STEAK & TURKEY (N. NATURAL GRAY)	<b>Fresh Ground Beef</b> \$1.89 LB.
<b>SALADS</b> ITALIAN CHICKEN SALAD • BLACK OLIVES • MARINATED PEPPERS • BAKED PEPPERS	<b>HOMEMADE CROSTINI</b> HOMEMADE MEATBALLS • HOMEMADE SAUSAGE • HOMEMADE VEAL SCALLOPINE • HOMEMADE CHICKEN PASTA	<b>~DELI~</b> SOPPRESSATA (HOT OR COLD) • DRY SAUSAGE • EXTRA CHEESE PRODUCE • BUTTER & MAYONNAISE

WE ACCEPT FOOD STAMPS  
312 S. BLACKHORSE PIKE • BLACKWOOD • 228-0908

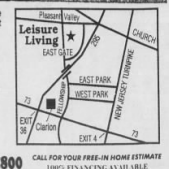
## OPEN HOUSE PATIO ROOMS



DIRECTIONS: From 295 take exit 36, Route 73 So. to Fellowship Rd. (Clarion Hotel), left to Eastgate Drive (3rd Light turn Right)

**PATIO & DECK ENCLOSURES**  
**LEISURE LIVING PATIO ROOMS**  
824 EASTGATE DR. STE. C  
MT. LAUREL, N.J. 08054

SHOWROOM HOURS:  
MON. THRU THURS 9:00AM-7:00 PM  
FRI. 9:00AM-6:00 PM SAT. 10AM-6PM  
778-5800



CALL FOR YOUR FREE-IN HOME ESTIMATE  
100% FINANCING AVAILABLE

## ELECTION DAY SALE!

**SAVE 10% OFF OUR ENTIRE INVENTORY!**

10% OFF SHOES FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY  
10% OFF EVERYTHING IN THE LOFT  
10% OFF SOCKS & HOSIERY

**NOVEMBER 1, 2 & 3**

**DON'T MISS IT! Special orders Welcome**

**DiGiulio's SHOES**

Maple Shade 667-5450  
Marlton 424-7300  
Washington Twp. 562-6060